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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/043,648	01/10/2002	Meng Chang Chen	08919-069001 / 05A-881219	6040
26161	7590	11/16/2005		EXAMINER
FISH & RICHARDSON PC P.O. BOX 1022 MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55440-1022				PITARO, RYAN F
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2174	

DATE MAILED: 11/16/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/043,648	CHEN, MENG CHANG
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ryan F. Pitaro	2174

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 August 2005.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-24 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-24 have been examined.

Response to Amendment

2. This action is in response to the communication filed 8/22/2005. This action is non-final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4,7,8,11-14,17,18,21,22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Godoy et al ("Godoy", "PersonalSearcher: An Intelligent Agent for Searching Web Pages") in view of Chen et al ("Chen", "WebMate: A Personal Agent for Browsing and Searching").

As per independent claim 1, Godoy discloses a system for managing a personal view for a user comprising: a personal view constructor, which builds the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page extracted by the proxy (Page 3

lines 17-21); and a personal view maintainer, which adjusts the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories (Page 5 lines 22-31). However, Godoy does not explicitly disclose a proxy. Chen teaches a proxy, which tracks web pages that have been accessed by the user and extracts a topic page from the web pages (Column 3 lines 30-37). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the proxy for extracting web topics of Chen with the system of Godoy. Motivation to do so would have been to provide a way to more accurately monitor a user's actions.

As per claim 2, which is dependent on claim 1, Godoy-Chen discloses a method wherein the personal view constructor builds the personal view by mapping the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories and updating a corresponding category in the hierarchy (Godoy, Page 5 lines 22-31).

As per claim 3, which is dependent on claim 2, Godoy-Chen discloses a method wherein the selected category has a category vector that is most similar to a keyword vector of the topic page (Godoy, Page 5 lines 22-31).

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 2, Godoy-Chen discloses a method wherein the corresponding category is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories if the selected category is not in the hierarchy (Godoy, Page 5 lines 1-10).

As per claim 7, which is dependent on claim 1, Godoy-Chen discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer periodically reduces the energy value of each of the categories (Godoy, Page 5 lines 25-28).

As per claim 8, which is dependent on claim 7, Godoy-Chen discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer removes a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold (Godoy, Page 6 lines 14-29).

Claims 11 and 21 are individually similar in scope to that of claim 1, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 12 and 22 are individually similar in scope to that of claim 2, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 13 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 3, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 14 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 4, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 17 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 7, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 18 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 8, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

5. Claims 5,6,9,15,16,19,23,24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Godoy et al ("Godoy", "PersonalSearcher: An Intelligent Agent for

Searching Web Pages") and Chen et al ("Chen", "WebMate: A Personal Agent for Browsing and Searching") in view of Devaney et al ("Devaney", "Dynamically Adjusting Concepts to Accommodate Changing Contexts").

As per claim 5, which is dependent on claim 1, Godoy-Chen fails to disclose a split operator for hierarchical nodes. However, Devaney discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer splits off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a predetermined threshold (Column 7 lines 36-47). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the split operator of Devaney with the system of Godoy-Chen. Motivation to do so would have been to reorganize the hierarchy to maximize category utility within the search space.

As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 5, Godoy-Chen-Devaney discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer chooses the child category that maximizes a gain value (Devaney, Column 7 lines 36-47).

As per claim 9, which is dependent on claim 7, Godoy-Chen-Devaney discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer merges information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy (Column 8 lines 1-11).

Claims 15 and 23 are individually similar in scope to that of claim 5, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claim 16 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 6, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Claims 19 and 24 are individually similar in scope to that of claim 9, and are therefore rejected under similar rationale.

6. Claims 10,20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Godoy et al ("Godoy", "PersonalSearcher: An Intelligent Agent for Searching Web Pages") and Chen et al ("Chen", "WebMate: A Personal Agent for Browsing and Searching")

As per claim 10, which is dependent on claim 1, Godoy-Chen does not distinctly point out a personal view display for the hierarchy of categories. However, OFFICIAL NOTICE is taken that visualizing hierarchies in a display is well known in the art. Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine a visual hierarchy with the system of Godoy-Chen. Motivation to do so would have been to provide an easy way to distinguish the different nodes and their respective depth levels.

Claim 20 is individually similar in scope to that of claim 10, and is therefore rejected under similar rationale.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed 8/22/2005, with respect to the withdrawal of the Chen/Chen/Sun reference have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of 2/24/2005 has been withdrawn. However, the Examiner encourages the Applicants to submit a supplemental Affidavit stating that "the subject matter relied on in the patent or application publication was the invention of the application" for record clarification purposes. MPEP 715.01(a).

Conclusion

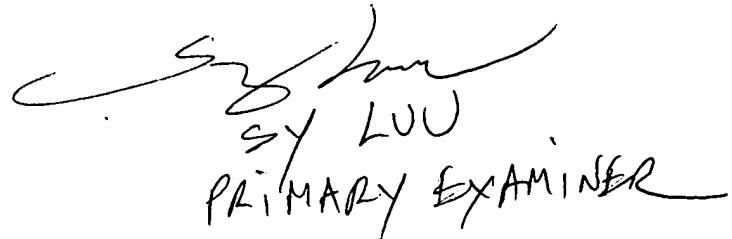
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan F Pitaro whose telephone number is 571-272-4071. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00am - 4:30pm Monday through Thursday and on alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kristine Kincaid can be reached on 571-272-4063. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ryan Pitaro
Art Unit 2174
Patent Examiner

RFP



Handwritten signature of Sy Luu, followed by the title "PRIMARY EXAMINER" written in capital letters.